

industry. In order to safeguard the Indian poultry industry, the imports of pureline breeding stock, parent level breeding stock and hatching eggs of chicken and ducks are in the restricted list and are allowed on merit on the recommendations of this Department. Only G.P. stock is freely importable.

(d) To prevent the import of diseases like avian leucosis virus, the Government has specified Veterinary Health requirements for the importation of poultry into the country, which is strictly followed.

MSP for pulses and oilseeds

4590. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pulses and oilseeds are two products in which self-sufficiency has not been achieved;

(b) whether in order to encourage farmers, Government are considering payment of a Minimum Support Price (MSP); and

(c) if so, what are the details of this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government already fixes each season the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various oilseeds and pulses and authorizes the NAFED, the designated central nodal agency to undertake price support operations of pulses and oilseeds in the event of prices falling below the MSP level. The MSPs fixed for the 2000-01 crop of various pulses and oilseeds are as under:

Rs. per quintal

Commodity	Minimum Support Price
1	2
Arhar	1200
Moong	1200
Urad	1200
Gram	1100

1	2
Groundnut (in shell)	1220
Soyabean (Black)	775
Soyabean (Yellow)	865
Sunflower Seed	1170
Seasamum Seed	1300
Nigerseed	1025
Rapeseed/Mustard	1200
Toria	1165
Safflower	1200
Copra (milling)*	3300
Copra (ball)*	3550

*Copra (milling & ball) relates to the calendar year 2001.

It has recently been decided that MSP of masur (lentil) of fair average quality (FAQ) will also be fixed.

Challenges of globalisation and WTO competition

4591. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken to face up the challenges of the globalisation and WTO competition in Agriculture infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Government of India has recently announced National Agriculture Policy which addresses to the challenges arising out of economic liberalisation and globalization. The National Agriculture Policy seeks to actualize the vast untapped growth potential of Indian agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure to support faster agricultural development, promote value addition, secure a fair standard of living for farmers and agricultural workers and effectively face the challenges of the new era. A detailed action plan for implementation of the National Agriculture Policy is being developed through inter-ministerial interaction. In the meanwhile,